

Waukegan Wis.

Feb 22, 1903

Dear George:

The telegram bringing the sad news of sister Della's death was delivered to us at 2.15 this afternoon. Had it been sent to the house as soon as received which was 8.42 a.m. I should have gone on the 10 o'clock train to Brandon. As it was, it was impossible for me to do so.

About 6 o'clock, Ralph went to the telephone thinking to talk

with you but found you had left.  
rather they thought you had left  
on the afternoon train.

I would like to have seen you  
but suppose business hurried  
you away.

It has been a long time since  
I heard from Della. Annie Patterson  
wrote me last fall that she was  
not expected to live long, and later  
wrote me she was better, so the news  
today was quite unexpected.

How is your health, and are the  
children well. Will you keep them  
with you.

With regards, yours  
Ella Smith.